

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tohru NATSUME et al.
Title: BIOPOLYMER AUTOMATIC IDENTIFYING
METHOD
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP03/11298
Int'l. Filing Date: 09/04/2003
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form 1449B/PTO is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached 1449B/PTO was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has not been provided. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form 1449B/PTO be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 3 March 2005

By S. A. Bent

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5404
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Stephen A. Bent
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 29,768

0101 REC'd PCT/PT 03 MAR 2005

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: March 3, 2005 (use as many sheets as necessary) | | Complete if Known Application Number: Unassigned Filing Date: Unassigned First Named Inventor: Tohru NATSUME Group Art Unit: Unassigned Examiner Name: Unassigned Attorney Docket Number: 081356-0235 | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | A1 | | JP 10-132786 A | | Shimadzu Corp. | 5/22/1998 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | |
| | A2 | International Search Report of PCT/JP03/11298. | | |
| | A3 | V. EGELHOFER et al., "Improvements in Protein Identification by MALDI-TOF-MS Peptide Mapping", Analytical Chemistry, July 1, 2000, Vol. 72, No. 13, pgs. 2741 to 2750. | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | /Michael Borin/ | Date Considered | 08/21/2008 |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /MB/